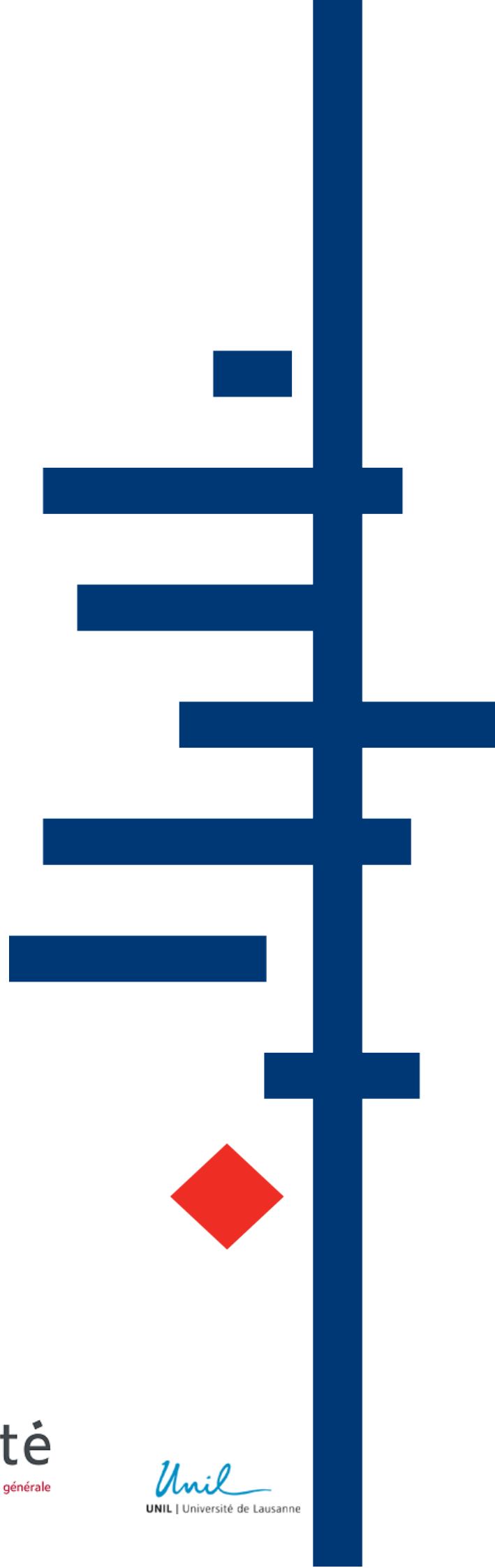


# Biennial Report 2022 & 2023

Cochrane Switzerland



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# Foreword

This Biennial Report provides an overview of the activities of our Geographic Group during the years 2022 and 2023. We continued our work on several ongoing and some new projects with a focus on knowledge translation, advocacy for evidence-based health care, and review production. During these two years a new grant from the Canton of Vaud has enabled us to relaunch our knowledge translation project 'Cochrane Q&A'. It resulted in an attractive and functional website in three languages featuring the evidence from selected Cochrane reviews that are of interest to the general public. Further, we obtained new funding for our collaborative work to develop visual summaries on health questions around pregnancy and childbirth.

We have continued our work on Cochrane review projects, of which one was submitted for peer review to the Cochrane Editorial Service in late 2023 and another published in the Cochrane Library in early 2024. As a new review project, we took on the update of an existing Cochrane review. This project provides our team and the international co-authors with an opportunity to learn about the revised Cochrane workflows and to apply up-to-date review methodology.

Finally, the year 2023 was marked by the first on-site Cochrane Colloquium after an enduring period of five years. Delegates from the global Cochrane community and professionals and patient representatives interested in evidence-based health care gathered for four days at the Queen Elizabeth II Centre in Central London, just opposite Westminster Abbey. Besides the dense scientific programme, this event was an opportunity to celebrate the first 30 years of the Cochrane Collaboration and deliberate on what lies ahead of the organisation. We renewed contacts with colleagues, participated in strategic discussions, and for the newcomers it was an opportunity to discover what evidence-based health care and Cochrane is about.

The global network of Geographic Groups and the collaborative spirit is a unique feature of the Cochrane Collaboration at a time when obtaining resources for health research (including evidence synthesis) becomes increasingly competitive, both at the international and national level. The rapid technology advances in recent years will most likely change the way how health evidence will be synthesized in the future. We are curious to explore what opportunities and challenges lie ahead of the evidence synthesis community and how we can respond to them in a collaborative way.



Erik von Elm, MD MSc FMH  
Director Cochrane Switzerland

# 1. Key activities

The Cochrane Collaboration had defined the following three goals in its “Strategy for change 2021-2023” to guide the work during its ongoing organisational transition: ‘Producing trusted evidence’, ‘Advocating for evidence’, and ‘Informing health and care decisions’. Our activities as the Geographic Group in Switzerland were aligned with these overarching organizational goals and are described in the following:

## 1.1. Producing trusted evidence

### 1.1.1 *Systematic reviews and methodology projects*

- We have continued to contribute to the Cochrane review project on ‘interventions implemented through sporting organisations for promoting healthy behaviour or improving health outcomes’. The project is now led by colleagues at the University of Newcastle / Australia. The literature search was updated once more in December 2023, and all remaining steps completed including writing up the Results and Discussion sections. Eventually, the full review manuscript has been submitted for peer review to Cochrane’s Editorial Service in December 2023. (NB: In the meantime, detailed peer review comments have been received and the revised manuscript has been re-submitted.)
- Another collaborative Cochrane review project could be accomplished in 2023. The Cochrane intervention review on ‘alpha-lipoic acid for diabetic peripheral neuropathy’ was led by researchers and clinicians based in Romania and eventually published in January 2024. It includes data from three randomized controlled trials and documents the lack of robust evidence supporting the effectiveness of this antioxidant, which is marketed widely as a dietary supplement for patients with peripheral neuropathy.
- In the past two years we were in search for an opportunity to either undertake a new Cochrane review or contribute to the update of an existing one. We wanted to catch up with current Cochrane review methodology and newly defined workflows in review production on this occasion. In 2023, we identified the intervention review on ‘psychosocial interventions for smoking cessation in patients with coronary heart disease’ as a suitable review update project. This Cochrane review is both highly relevant for public health and led by Swiss authors we have been collaborating with in the past. In addition, it continues to be cited in international guidelines although the last published version dates back to 2015. We went through the initial steps of title registration with the Cochrane Editorial Service and set up a new author group. Participating team members worked through the Interactive Learning Modules provided by Cochrane Training to become familiar with the current methodology of

Cochrane reviews. A new review protocol needed to be drafted for this update and this work has started in early 2024 (NB: meanwhile, the protocol has been submitted to Cochrane Editorial Service and we wait for feedback from peer review).

- Since September 2020 we have been involved in an international consortium led by colleagues at the University of Ottawa / Canada that has been developing an extension of the reporting guideline “Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology” (STROBE) with funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). The goal of this ongoing project is to develop a checklist of items that are essential to adequately report equity information in observational health research with a focus on the PROGRESS-Plus factors (e.g., ethnicity, religion, education, or gender). The study protocol of this collaborative work has been published in March 2023 and is titled “Improving social justice in observational studies: protocol for the development of a global and Indigenous STROBE-equity reporting guideline” (PMID: 36991403). A first sub-project we have contributed to is a scoping review that identified candidate items for the STROBE-equity checklist (PMID: 37330072). More information is available at: <https://methods.cochrane.org/equity/projects/strobe-equity>.
- We have been involved in another reporting guidance project addressing the information on treatment integrity in studies on psychological interventions. It was led by the Institute for Complementary and Integrative Medicine at the University Hospital Zurich, which also hosts the Swiss satellite group of the field ‘Cochrane Complementary Medicine’. The international author group has been elaborating this guidance document since 2020. The definitive version was published in November 2022 as the ‘RIPI-f (Reporting Integrity of Psychological Interventions delivered face-to-face) checklist’ (PMID: 35926822).
- In the past two years, several publications resulted from the collaboration for trial methodology projects with researchers based at the University Hospital in Basel / Switzerland. These articles reported on (1) a repeated cross-sectional study on the reporting quality of clinical trial protocols (ASPIRE-SCAGE); (2) a qualitative study among clinical trial stakeholders regarding trial discontinuation due to recruitment failure; and (3) an analysis of registration, discontinuation, and publication of RCTs from our initial cohort with follow-up ten years after approval by ethics committees.

The full references of peer-reviewed articles published by team members during the years 2022 and 2023 are available in [Annex 1](#).

### **1.1.2 Supporting review production**

To support the elaboration of Cochrane reviews in Switzerland we provided advice on questions of review methodology and conduct to several author groups. This support ranged from numerous quick questions answered by email or phone to more substantial troubleshooting tasks involving other Cochrane groups or Cochrane’s Central Executive Team. It also included

contributions as methods advisor or peer reviewer of review manuscripts (not necessarily of Swiss author groups). A list of Cochrane reviews and protocols published in 2022 and 2023 by author teams based in Switzerland is provided in [Annex 2](#). (NB: it does not imply that we have supported all listed projects.)

### **1.1.3 Courses and workshops**

Cochrane Switzerland delivers or co-organizes training events in the field of evidence-based health care and evidence synthesis. These are courses and workshops at introductory level aiming to provide researchers with the basic skills needed to conduct systematic reviews as well as more advanced workshops aiming to strengthen methodological and statistical capacity of current and new review authors. In 2022 and 2023, we contributed to under- and postgraduate teaching in epidemiology, clinical research and evidence-based medicine at universities and applied universities in Switzerland and abroad. Among others, these training events included:

- presentations about evidence synthesis and the Cochrane Collaboration in the module „Fundamentals of producing, interpreting & using evidence in health care” of the Master of Science Epidemiology programme at the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH) in Basel on 31 March 2022 and 1st June 2023;
- lectures and exercises about systematic reviews and the Cochrane Collaboration, as part of the postgraduate ‘Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS)’ course in clinical research of the Faculty of Biology and Medicine of the University of Lausanne, on 19 February 2022 and 18 February 2023;
- lectures and journal clubs about reporting guidelines in health research, as part of the module „Planning, Conducting & Analysing Studies“ in the international Master of Science Epidemiology curriculum of the University of Mainz, Germany, on 21 February 2022 and 24 February 2023.

## **1.2. Advocating for evidence**

### **1.2.1 Communication with the community**

- **Newsletter:** Our newsletter provides updates about our group’s activities as well as relevant developments and events in the global Cochrane community. We have published four issues in 2022 and 2023, each in three language versions (English, French, and German). All past and current issues of our newsletter are available on our website (<https://swiss.cochrane.org/our-newsletter>). The number of subscriptions remained stable at about 350 in the reporting period.

- **Social media:** We maintained our channel on X (Twitter) and posted or retweeted a total of 24 messages in both years. The number of followers remained at about 950 at the end of 2023.

### 1.2.2 Work with professional groups

- **Visual summaries:** We continued to work with the Swiss Federation of Midwives (Schweizerischer Hebammenverband, SHV) for the development and testing of visual summaries on health questions around pregnancy and childbirth. This format presents the essential information from Cochrane reviews in a condensed but visually appealing one-page format. The SANA Foundation granted financial support for this knowledge translation project. An initial set of ten visual summaries was published online and a further 50 plain language summaries of Cochrane reviews in this topic area were translated into German. The working group completed this project in early 2023 and the definitive visual summaries are now freely available on a website that SHV created earlier for pregnant women and their families (<https://www.hebammensuche.ch/informierte-entscheidung>) and attracts many visitors. The visual summary format was well received by practicing midwives, who also asked for versions in French for wider dissemination. Consequently, we submitted a proposal for additional funding to the SANA Foundation and, in December 2023, were happy to learn that our request was approved.
- **Cochrane Public Health Europe (CPHE)** is the European satellite of Cochrane's review group on public health questions (<http://ph.cochrane.org>). This network of collaborating centers in Germany, Austria and Switzerland has a regular exchange of information with Cochrane Public Health, the review group based in Newcastle / Australia. We continued to promote the uptake of Cochrane public health reviews through emails targeted at stakeholders in Swiss public health institutions and to support the production of several reviews in the editorial process. We participated in a collaborative project of CPHE members, led by Cochrane Germany, that investigated the reporting of dietary adherence in Cochrane nutrition reviews. The results were published in June 2023 in the Journal of Clinical Epidemiology (PMID: 36965600) and showed that dietary adherence was not reported adequately in most of these reviews. A further finding was that only a minority of the reviews used this critical component of methodology to assess the quality of the included primary studies.
- **Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences (SAMS):** At the close of 2023 we accepted a new mandate to support SAMS's work to update their guidelines on the use of coercion in medicine. We searched literature databases and the internet for reviews on the qualitative evidence and guidelines in this thematic area from the past ten years. (NB: In mid-April 2024 the report including a tabular evidence map describing 38 reviews and 25 guideline documents has been submitted to SAMS.)

### 1.2.3 Scientific meetings

Apart from the Cochrane Colloquium in London / UK in September 2023 (see Foreword) our participation in scientific meetings included, among others, the Congress of the Network for Evidence-based medicine in Germany. This annual event had been postponed to 1-3 September 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic; it took place in Lübeck / Germany with the theme “Evidence-based medicine for needs-based healthcare”. We held a workshop on the citizen science activities of Cochrane and co-presented a poster on the German-language blog “Wissen Was Wirkt”. Only about half a year later, on 22-23 March 2023, the next EbM congress was held in Potsdam / Germany with the theme “Health and climate – EbM for the future”. In both events we contributed to the planning and realisation of the Interprofessional Students' Day that preceded the conference. These learning events gave students from various health professions an opportunity to discover the principles and methods of evidence-based healthcare.

## 1.3. Informing health and care decisions

The full content of the Cochrane Library with more than 9000 systematic reviews is available only in English. While most healthcare professionals in Switzerland can read health information in English, many prefer content written in one of the national languages German, French or Italian. Some other user groups including patients and consumers groups, the media, and policymakers have a strong preference for the national languages. Our knowledge translation activities include a range of formats to present selected Cochrane evidence in the national languages. For these projects we also collaborate with thematic Cochrane groups such as the field Cochrane Rehabilitation and professional organisations in Switzerland that aim to provide Cochrane evidence to their communities in suitable formats.

### 1.3.1 Cochrane Q&A

The first version of our information resource ‘Cochrane Q&A’ (<https://cochrane.ch>) was launched in 2016 as part of a multi-part knowledge translation project funded by the Health Directorate of the Canton Vaud. In 2022, we have obtained a new grant by the same funder and started to revise its structure and content. ‘Cochrane Q&A’ highlights evidence from Cochrane reviews about selected topics of relevance to health service users and the public in general. It provides the key information and conclusions in simplified language and a short, standardized question-and-answer (Q&A) format. Currently, a total of about 70 topics are grouped in ten broad health themes. Each text is freely available in French, German and Italian.

With a science journalist joining the team in early 2023 and support by a professional web designer, we were able to rebuild the platform, to increase its functionality, and to ensure its stability and safety. Laudably, a professional translator volunteered her time and expertise for the



Italian language version. With a ‘soft re-launch’ in 2024 we will ensure that potential users in Switzerland and abroad will learn about this resource. At the same time, we will make sure that the content stays up-to-date and covers Cochrane evidence on health questions of interest to a broad public.

The screenshot shows the German version of the Cochrane Q&A website. The header includes the Cochrane Q&A logo, navigation links for 'Alle Antworten', 'Über', 'Kontakt', and 'Deutsch', and a red 'unisanté' logo. The main content area features a search bar with the text 'Suchen Sie zuverlässige Informationen zu Gesundheitsfragen?' and 'Hier finden Sie Antworten aus den systematischen Reviews von Cochrane'. Below the search bar is a grid of images related to health topics. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'Gesundheitsthemen durchsuchen' with a list of health topics: 'Mutterschaft', 'Infektionskrankheiten', 'Zahngesundheit', 'Allergien und Asthma', 'Körperliche Aktivität', 'Senioren', 'Tabak', 'Schmerzen', 'Ernährung', and 'Familie'.

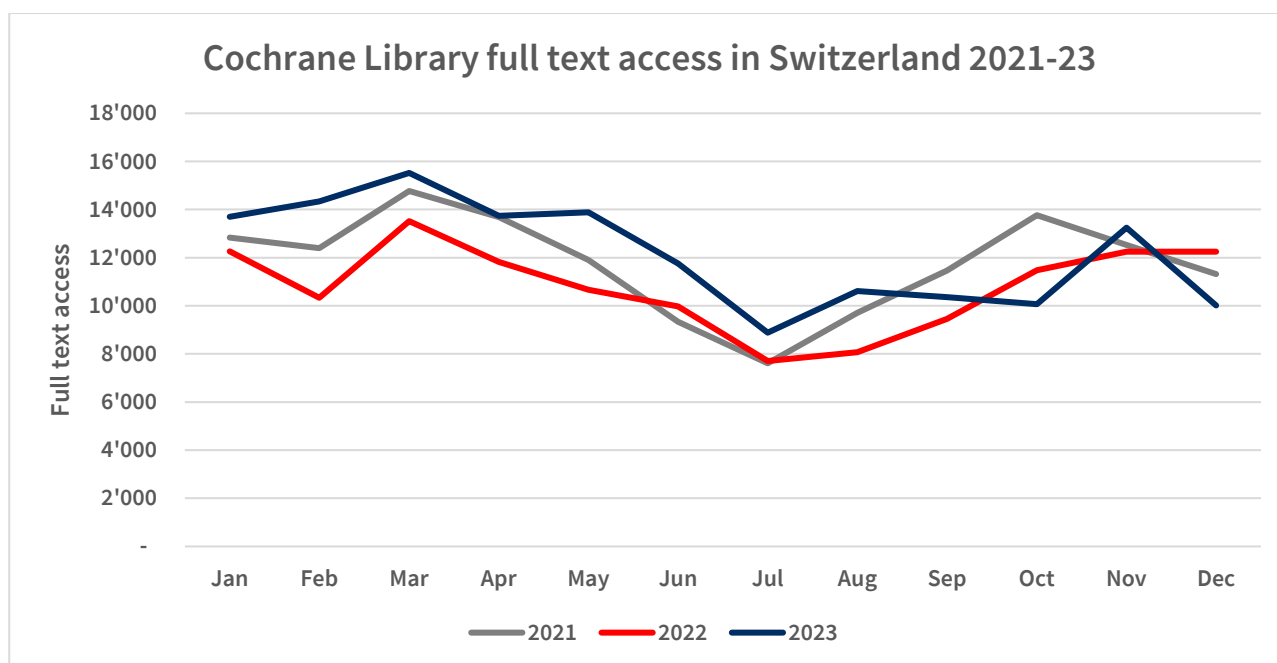
Index page of the German version of “Cochrane Q&A”

The screenshot shows a health question page in the French version of the Cochrane Q&A website. The header includes the Cochrane Q&A logo, navigation links for 'Toutes les réponses', 'À propos', 'Contact', and 'Français', and a red 'unisanté' logo. The main content area features the question 'L'exercice physique peut-il être utile contre la peur de tomber chez les personnes âgées ?'. Below the question is a 'Réponse' section with text: 'Les interventions d'activité physique auprès des personnes âgées réduisent probablement leur crainte des chutes, dans une mesure limitée, immédiatement après l'intervention. Les preuves sont insuffisantes pour déterminer si ces interventions ont réduit la crainte de tomber au-delà de la fin de l'intervention ou si elles ont eu un effet sur les autres critères d'évaluation.' There is also a 'Qualité de preuve' section with text: 'La qualité des preuves a été évaluée comme faible. La revue est basée sur 30 études comprenant un total de 2 878 participants (à jour). Période des études incluses : jusqu'en juillet 2013.' and a 'Contexte' section with text: 'Beaucoup de personnes âgées ont peur de tomber, d'autant plus après une première chute. La peur des chutes peut avoir un impact important sur la santé et la vie d'une personne âgée car elle entraîne souvent une réduction des activités physiques et sociales de celle-ci. L'exercice physique peut réduire la peur des chutes, en améliorant la force, la marche, l'équilibre et l'humeur. Cette revue Cochrane évalue si l'exercice physique, sous la forme d'une activité planifiée, structurée et répétitive visant à améliorer la condition physique, contribue à réduire la peur des chutes chez les personnes âgées. Les types d'interventions évaluées comprennent l'entraînement de l'équilibre, l'entraînement de la force et de la résistance et des exercices dans les trois dimensions comme la danse ou le tai-chi.' On the right side, there is a 'Liens Cochrane' section with buttons for 'Résumé simplifié' and 'Revue systématique', and a text description: 'Les revues systématiques sont des travaux scientifiques qui consistent à chercher, sélectionner et compiler les résultats d'études cliniques existantes et d'en évaluer le niveau de preuve et de fiabilité.' Below this text is an image of a group of people participating in a physical activity class.

Example of a health question page of the French version of “Cochrane Q&A”

### 1.3.2 Cochrane Library national provision

Since 2016, Swiss residents have free and unrestricted access to the full content of the Cochrane Library through a one-click access. This is made possible by a consortium of the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences (SAMS), the Federal Office of Public Health and the academic medical libraries. It gives Swiss residents an easy access to a high-quality source of health information that is free from commercial interests. The current second funding period lasts until the end of 2024. Using data provided by the publisher John Wiley & Sons Limited we have been monitoring the usage of this online resource in Switzerland (see chart below). Full-text systematic reviews in the Cochrane Library can be accessed either in html format or downloaded as a pdf-file. As in previous years, the number of visits per month followed a seasonal pattern with a first peak in April/May and another in October/November. The monthly number of visits ranged between 8'000 and 16'000 visits in both years.



### 1.3.3 Publications in medical education journals

We continued the collaboration with three Swiss medical education journals that regularly publish health information tailored to specific professional groups. See [Annex 3](#) for the references of summaries of Cochrane evidence published in 2022 and 2023.

- **physioactive:** This bi-monthly journal is published in German and French (and from 2023 in Italian) by the professional association of physiotherapists in Switzerland *physioswiss*. As regular guest editors since 2013, we have been supporting a series highlighting Cochrane reviews of interest to physiotherapists. Both the topic selection and drafting of articles are done by a working group of physiotherapists. In 2022, *physioactive* included six summaries, and, in 2023, two summaries as well as an interview with Dr Erik von Elm.

- **Ars Medici / DOCINSIDE:** Since 2017 we collaborate with this bi-weekly journal for primary care practitioners in German-speaking Switzerland published by the Rosenfluh Verlag (Schaffhausen). Under the heading "Neues aus der Cochrane Library" *Ars Medici* has published eight short articles on recent Cochrane reviews in 2022, and three in 2023. The digital information resource called DOCINSIDE (<https://www.docinside.ch>) by the same publisher features selected Cochrane reviews on a regular basis and also includes links to Cochrane webpages that are of interest to Swiss health care professionals.
- **Tribuna Medica Ticinese:** This monthly bulletin in Italian language is for health professionals in the canton of Ticino, the Southern-most part of Switzerland. In 2022, its editorial team selected five Cochrane reviews for summary articles, and another five in 2023.

### 1.3.4 Cochrane Kompakt

Cochrane Kompakt ([www.cochrane.org/de/kompakt](http://www.cochrane.org/de/kompakt)) is the web resource including plain language summaries of Cochrane reviews in German language. We contributed to the translation of summaries of recently published or updated reviews focusing on topics that were also included in our multi-lingual platform Cochrane Q&A (see 1.3.1). This resource now includes about 2800 plain language summaries in German language. Its uptake by users continues to be very positive: the ‘Cochrane Kompakt’ pages were visited about 1,0 million times in 2022, and about 1,4 million times in 2023.

### 1.3.5 ‘Wissen Was Wirkt‘ - the Cochrane blog in German

The blog ‘Wissen Was Wirkt’ ([www.wissenwaswirkt.org](http://www.wissenwaswirkt.org)) discusses topics related to evidence-based health care and recent Cochrane evidence, in particular systematic reviews with translated plain language summaries in *Cochrane Kompakt*. As a key knowledge transfer project of the German-speaking Cochrane Centres it is a long-standing collaboration with our colleagues at Cochrane Germany and Cochrane Austria. A total of 55 blog posts were published in both years. A thematic series covered interventions in oral health and dentistry in 2022, and three thematic series covered interventions for cancer screening, remedies for the common cold, and basics of medical statistics in 2023. Two blog posts were written by our team; their titles were “Alles auf einen Blick: Cochrane-Evidenz zu Schwangerschaft und Geburt“ (16/02/2023), and „Darmkrebs-Früherkennung – ein Screening der besonderen Art“ (04/09/2023). Overall, the number of trackable visits to the blog’s website was about 101’000 in 2022, and about 92’000 in 2023.

## 2. Our team

In 2022 and 2023 we had the following changes in our core team:

- In November 2022, **Lorenzo Righi**, public health physician from Italy, joined our team as scientific collaborator.
- Our scientific collaborator **Anne Borchard** left the team in January 2023.
- **Yann Bernadinelli** joined the team as our communications officer in March 2023.

As of December 2023, our team consisted of five part-time staff members:\*

**Cornelia Barth**, MSc, PhD; coordinator

**Yann Bernadinelli**, PhD; communications officer

**Viviane Glaettli Klasen**; secretary

**Lorenzo Righi**, MD; scientific collaborator

**Erik von Elm**, MD, MSc, FMH; director

Several additional Unisanté collaborators and external Cochrane members have contributed to our activities and are listed below:\*

**Muaamar Al-Gobari**, PhD

**Chantal Arditi**, MSc, MA, PhD

**Bernard Burnand**, MD, MPH, professor emeritus

**Lorella Carozzi**, MSc, translator

**Sylvie Anne Genier**, BSc, MSc student

**Marie-Annick Le Pogam**, MD, MPH, PhD

**Isabelle Peytreman Bridevaux**, MD, MPH, DSc, professor

**Patrick Taffé**, MSc, PhD

**Giorgio Treglia**, MD, MSc (HTA)

**Annatina Walther**, BSc

**Mirka Zeis Bernasconi**

\* in alphabetical order

# Annex 1 – Peer-reviewed articles

2022:

- **Barth CA**, Wladis A, Roy N, Blake C, Kolo SM, OSullivan C. Ways to improve surgical outcomes in low- and middle-income countries. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*. 2022; 100(11), 726–732.
- Gryaznov D, von Niederhäusern B, Speich B, Kasenda B, Ojeda-Ruiz E, Blümle A, Schandelmaier S, Mertz D, Odutayo A, Tomonaga Y, Amstutz A, Pauli-Magnus C, Gloy V, Lohner S, Bischoff K, Wollmann K, Rehner L, Meerpohl JJ, Nordmann A, Klatte K, Ghosh N, Taji Heravi A, Wong J, Chow N, Hong P, McCord-De Iaco KA, Sricharoenchai S, Busse JW, Agarwal A, Saccilotto R, Schwenkglenks M, Moffa G, Hemkens L, Hopewell S, **von Elm E**, Briel M. Reporting quality of clinical trial protocols: a repeated cross-sectional study about the Adherence to SPIrit Recommendations in Switzerland, CANada and GERmany (ASPIRE-SCAGE). *BMJ Open*. 2022 May 24;12(5):e053417.
- Leresche E, Hossain M, Rossi R, Truppa C, **Barth CA**, Mactaggart I, Leaning J, Singh N. Do we really want to know? The journey to implement empirical research recommendations in ICRC’s responses in Myanmar and Lebanon. *Disasters*. 2022; 47: 437-463.
- Lopez-Alcalde J, Yakoub NS, Wolf M, Munder T, **von Elm E**, Flückiger C, Steinert C, Liebherz S, Rosendahl J, Witt CM, Barth J. The RIPI-f (Reporting Integrity of Psychological Interventions delivered face-to-face) checklist was developed to guide reporting of treatment integrity in face-to-face psychological interventions. *J Clin Epidemiol*. 2022 Nov;151:65-74. 6.
- Roqué M, Urrútia G, **von Elm E**. Systematic reviews and meta-analyses in surgery. *Cir Esp (Engl Ed)*. 2022 Aug;100(8):514-516.
- Satalkar P, McLennan S, Elger BS, **von Elm E**, Matthias B. Investigators' sense of failure thwarted transparency in clinical trials discontinued for poor recruitment. *J Clin Epidemiol*. 2022 May;145:136-143.
- Speich B, Gryaznov D, Busse JW, Gloy VL, Lohner S, Klatte K, Taji Heravi A, Ghosh N, Lee H, Mansouri A, Marian IR, Saccilotto R, Nury E, Kasenda B, Ojeda-Ruiz E, Schandelmaier S, Tomonaga Y, Amstutz A, Pauli-Magnus C, Bischoff K, Wollmann K, Rehner L, Meerpohl JJ, Nordmann A, Wong J, Chow N, Hong PJ, Mc Cord-De Iaco K, Sricharoenchai S, Agarwal A, Schwenkglenks M, Hemkens LG, **von Elm E**, Copsey B, Griessbach AN, Schönenberger C, Mertz D, Blümle A, von Niederhäusern B, Hopewell S, Odutayo A, Briel M. Nonregistration, discontinuation, and nonpublication of randomized trials: A repeated meta-research analysis. *PLoS Med*. 2022 Apr 27;19(4):e1003980.

## 2023:

- Baicus C, Purcarea A, **von Elm E**, Delcea C, Furtunescu FL. Alpha-lipoic acid for diabetic peripheral neuropathy. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev.* 2024 Jan 11;1(1):CD012967.
- **Barth CA**, Donovan-Hall M, Blake C, Akhtar NJ, Al-Barawi S, Kabizwe H, O’Sullivan C. “Otherwise ... he will be a beggar”: A focus group study to understand the perspectives of physiotherapists about measuring rehabilitation outcomes and impact in low-resource and conflict-affected settings. *Disability and Rehabilitation.* 2023; 46(14), 3048–3059.
- Bisogni D, Talamucci L, Manetti R, Rossi M, Staderini F, **Righi L**, Cianchi F. Comparison between plastic stent (PS) and self-expandable-metallic stent (SEMS) for preoperative biliary drainage: which one fits best for resectable pancreatic lesions? Data analysis of a referral center for biliopancreatic disease treatment and literature overview. *Minerva Surg.* 2023 Jun;78(3):300-303.
- Calamai C, Ammar O, Marchiani S, Degl’Innocenti S, Fino M, **Righi L**, Dabizzi S, Maggi M, Baldi E, Vignozzi L, Muratori M. Decrease of air pollution during lockdown in Tuscany (Italy): An effect on sperm DNA fragmentation? *Environ Mol Mutagen.* 2023 Mar;64(3):148-158
- Fei L, Bozza B, Melani G, **Righi L**, Santarelli G, Boy OB, Benedetti D, Falone A, Flaccomio D, Giuranno G, Martelli M, Merola P, Moretti S, Ndoci E, Pecoraro V, Siviglia S, Berni A, Fanelli A, Giovagnini E, Morettini A, Nozzoli C, Para O, Rostagno C, Tozzetti C. SSRIs in the course of COVID-19 pneumonia: Evidence of effectiveness of antidepressants on acute inflammation. A retrospective study. *Hum Psychopharmacol.* 2024 Jan;39(1):e2887.
- Funnell S, Jull J, Mbuagbaw L, Welch V, Dewidar O, Wang X, Lesperance M, Ghogomu E, Rizvi A, Akl EA, Avey MT, Antequera A, Bhutta ZA, Chamberlain C, Craig P, Cuervo LG, Dicko A, Ellingwood H, Feng C, Francis D, Greer-Smith R, Hardy BJ, Harwood M, Hatcher-Roberts J, Horsley T, Juando-Prats C, Kasonde M, Kennedy M, Kredo T, Krentel A, Kristjansson E, Langer L, Little J, Loder E, Magwood O, Mahande MJ, Melendez-Torres GJ, Moore A, Niba LL, Nicholls SG, Nkangu MN, Lawson DO, Obuku E, Okwen P, Pantoja T, Petkovic J, Petticrew M, Pottie K, Rader T, Ramke J, Riddle A, Shamseer L, Sharp M, Shea B, Tanuseputro P, Tugwell P, Tufte J, **von Elm E**, Waddington HS, Wang H, Weeks L, Wells G, White H, Wiysonge CS, Wolfenden L, Young T. Improving social justice in observational studies: protocol for the development of a global and Indigenous STROBE-equity reporting guideline. *Int J Equity Health.* 2023 Mar 30;22(1):55.
- Schwingshackl L, Stadelmaier J, Lay R, Griebler U, De Santis KK, Zeeb H, Kien C, Reimer M, Eble J, von Philipsborn P, Gerhardus A, **von Elm E**, Meerpohl JJ, Kiesswetter E. In Cochrane nutrition reviews assessment of dietary adherence varied considerably. *J Clin Epidemiol.* 2023 Jun;158:1-9.



- ShahAli S, Shahabi S, Etemadi M, Hedayati M, **Barth CA**, Mojgani P, Behzadifar M, Lankarani KB, 2023. Barriers and facilitators of integrating physiotherapy into primary health care settings: A systematic scoping review of qualitative research. *Heliyon*. 2023; 9(10): e20736.
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## *Annex 2 - Cochrane reviews newly published or updated in 2022 and 2023 with authors in Switzerland*

The tables include new or updated Cochrane systematic reviews and new protocols that were published in 2022 and 2023 and have one or more authors based in Switzerland. The full text of these and all other Cochrane reviews are freely available in the Cochrane Library thanks to the current national provision (<http://www.cochranelibrary.com>).

### 2022

Review Title	Authors based in Switzerland
<b>Interventions for preventing and reducing the use of physical restraints of older people in general hospital settings</b>	Julian Hirt
<b>Extracorporeal photopheresis versus standard treatment for acute graft-versus-host disease after haematopoietic stem cell transplantation in children and adolescents</b>	Dirk Bassler
<b>Accuracy of measures for antiretroviral adherence in people living with HIV</b>	Nathan Ford
<b>Rapid, point-of-care antigen tests for diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection</b>	Sabine Dittrich, Devy Emperador, Jane Cunningham
<b>Intravenous iron versus oral iron versus no iron with or without erythropoiesis- stimulating agents (ESA) for cancer patients with anaemia: a systematic review and network meta-analysis</b>	Julia Bohlius
<b>Signs and symptoms to determine if a patient presenting in primary care or hospital outpatient settings has COVID-19</b>	Devy Emperador
<b>Xpert MTB/XDR for detection of pulmonary tuberculosis and resistance to isoniazid, fluoroquinolones, ethionamide, and amikacin</b>	Samuel Schumacher, Margaretha De Vos
<b>Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARS-CoV-2</b>	Jane Cunningham, Devy Emperador, Sabine Dittrich
<b>Symptom- and chest-radiography screening for active pulmonary tuberculosis in HIV-negative adults and adults with unknown HIV status</b>	Kerri Viney
<b>Vaccines for the common cold</b>	Diana Buitrago-Garcia
<b>Skin care interventions in infants for preventing eczema and food allergy</b>	Lisa Askie
<b>Tocolytics for delaying preterm birth: a network meta-analysis</b>	Olufemi Oladapo, Doris Chou
<b>Antifibrinolytic therapy for aneurysmal subarachnoid haemorrhage</b>	Menno Germans



<b>Physical activity and exercise training in cystic fibrosis</b>	Thomas Radtke, Susi Kriemler
<b>Extracorporeal photopheresis versus alternative treatment for chronic graft-versus-host disease after haematopoietic stem cell transplantation in children and adolescents</b>	Dirk Bassler
<b>Efficacy and safety of COVID-19 vaccines</b>	Lisa Askie
<b>Nutrition-specific interventions for preventing and controlling anaemia throughout the life cycle: an overview of systematic reviews</b>	Maria Nieves Garcia-Casal
<b>Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra assay for tuberculosis disease and rifampicin resistance in children</b>	Kerri Viney, Tiziana Masini, Annemieke Brands
<b>Induction of labour at or near term for suspected fetal macrosomia</b>	Olivier Irion
<b>Monitoring strategies for clinical intervention studies</b>	Patricia Arnaiz Jimenez, Pascal Benkert, Marie Mi Bonde, Nicole Bruni, Christiane Pauli-Magnus, Matthias Briel, Hannah Ewald

<b>Protocol Title</b>	<b>Authors based in Switzerland</b>
<b>Folic acid supplementation and malaria susceptibility and severity among people taking antifolate antimalarial drugs in endemic areas</b>	Lisa Rogers
<b>Folate supplementation in women of reproductive age</b>	Luz Maria De-Regil
<b>EEG neurofeedback for executive functions in children with neurodevelopmental challenges</b>	Tomas Ros
<b>Volatile pyrethroid spatial repellents for malaria prevention</b>	Sarah Moore
<b>Psychological and social interventions for the promotion of mental health in people living in low- and middle-income countries affected by humanitarian crises</b>	Mark van Ommeren
<b>Prophylactic antibiotics for uterine evacuation procedures to treat miscarriage</b>	Anne Ammerdorffer, Ahmet Metin Gülmezoglu
<b>Cannabidiol for people with schizophrenia</b>	Diana Buitrago-Garcia
<b>Regional analgesia with or without general anaesthesia for breast cancer surgery: a network meta-analysis</b>	Martina Gosteli-Peter, Michael Heesen, Cornelia Leo
<b>Oral nutrition interventions in hospitalised older people at nutritional risk: a network meta-analysis of individual participant data</b>	Philipp Schuetz
<b>Adjuvant epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs) for the treatment of people with resected stage I to III non-small-cell lung cancer and EGFR mutation</b>	Martina Imbimbo
<b>Psychedelic/entactogen-assisted therapy for treatment of anxiety, depression and existential distress in adult palliative care</b>	Sivan Schipper, Michael Ljuslin

## 2023

Review Title	Authors based in Switzerland
Experiences of conditional and unconditional cash transfers intended for improving health outcomes and health service use: a qualitative evidence synthesis	Kerri Viney
Perceptions and experiences of the prevention, detection, and management of postpartum haemorrhage: a qualitative evidence synthesis	Olufemi Oladapo
Surgery for women with apical vaginal prolapse	Corina Christmann-Schmid
Methods for informing people with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis/motor neuron disease of their diagnosis	Gian Domenico Borasio
Cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) with and without exercise to reduce fear of falling in older people living in the community	Eric Lenouvel, Stefan Klöppel
Baclofen for alcohol use disorder	Susanne Rösner
Interventions for bullous pemphigoid	Gudula Kirtschig
Alternative magnesium sulphate regimens for women with pre-eclampsia and eclampsia	Olufemi Oladapo
Prognostic models for predicting clinical disease progression, worsening and activity in people with multiple sclerosis	Kelly Reeve, Martina Gosteli-Peter, Ulrike Held, Andrea Götschi
Musical and vocal interventions to improve neurodevelopmental outcomes for preterm infants	Friederike Haslbeck, Dirk Bassler, Tanja Karen
Efficacy and safety of COVID-19 vaccines	Melanie Marti
Fortification of condiments and seasonings with iron for preventing anaemia and improving health	Luz Maria De-Regil

Protocol Title	Authors based in Switzerland
The effects of different abortion policy environments on women's health	Antonella Lavelanet
Diabetes as a risk factor for tuberculosis disease	Farai Mavhunga, Maria Nieves Garcia-Casal, Annabel Baddeley, Kerri Viney, Mathieu Bastard
Undernutrition as a risk factor for tuberculosis disease	Maria Nieves Garcia-Casal, Kerri Viney, Mathieu Bastard, Annabel Baddeley, Farai Mavhunga
Combined pharmacological and psychosocial interventions for alcohol use disorder	Dzmitry Krupchanka
Healthcare workers' informal uses of mobile devices to support their work: a qualitative evidence synthesis	Tigest Tamrat
Colchicine for the secondary prevention of cardiovascular events	Lars Hemkens, Matthias Briel, Perrine Janiaud, Christof Schönenberger, Fahim Ebrahimi, Julian Hirt, Hannah Ewald

## Annex 3 – Summaries of Cochrane reviews published in 2022 and 2023

Summaries of recent Cochrane reviews in French, German and Italian were published by medical education journals and bulletins of professional organizations. Some Cochrane reviews may have been covered in more than one language in different journals.

### Articles published in *physioactive*:

#### 2022:

- Übungen sind bei chronischer Lumbalgie wirksam - *Les exercices sont efficaces contre les lombalgies chroniques* (1.2022)
- Kinesiotaping zur Behandlung des Rotatorenmanschettensyndroms - *Le Kinesio Taping dans le traitement de la coiffe des rotateurs* (2.2022)
- Schlaganfall: Wie am besten kommunizieren? - *Accident vasculaire cérébral: comment communiquer ?* (3.2022)
- Hilft Physiotherapie bei CRPS, um Schmerzen oder eine Behinderung zu reduzieren? *La physiothérapie aide-t-elle à réduire la douleur ou le handicap dans le cas du SDRC ?* (4.2022)
- Dem Bewegungsmangel von älteren Menschen entgegenwirken - *Combler le manque de mouvement chez les personnes âgées* (5.2022)
- Hilft eine Kniearthroskopie bei degenerativen Veränderungen? - *L'arthroscopie du genou est-elle utile en cas de modifications dégénératives ?* (6.2022)

#### 2023:

- Cochrane – oder wie Synthesen Antworten liefern - *Cochrane, ou comment les synthèses apportent des réponses* - *Cochrane, ovvero come ottenere risposte dalle sintesi* (1.2023)
- Bewegungstherapie bei Arthrose - *Thérapie par le mouvement en cas d'arthrose* - *Esercizio terapeutico nell'artrosi* (3.2023)
- Prähabilitation vor Darmkrebs-Operation? - *Faire une préadaptation avant une opération pour un cancer colorectal ?* - *Prerabilitazione prima della chirurgia per tumore del colon-retto?* (5.2023)

### Articles published in *Ars Medici*:

#### 2022:

- Kann COVID-19 anhand von Symptomen und klinischen Zeichen diagnostiziert werden?
- Point-of-Care-Schnelltests zur Diagnose von COVID-19
- Spazieren gegen Bluthochdruck
- Internetbasierte kognitive Verhaltenstherapien zur Behandlung von posttraumatischen Belastungsstörungen bei Erwachsenen
- Antidepressiva der neuen Generation für Kinder und Jugendliche
- Ferritinbestimmung für Eisenmangel und Eisenüberladung unterschiedlich zuverlässig
- Anticholinerge Last als möglicher Risikofaktor für Demenz
- Hypertonietherapie senkt Demenzrisiko nicht

**2023:**

- E-Zigaretten: Nützliche Rauchstopphilfe?
- Prämenopausale Osteoporoseprävention: Keine Supplemente für gesunde Frauen
- Familienplanung: Hilft das richtige Timing beim Sex, um schwanger zu werden?

**Articles published in *Tribuna Medica Ticinese*:****2022:**

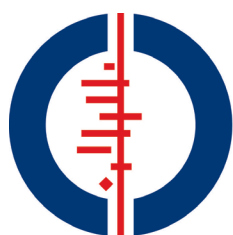
- Antibiotici per il trattamento del mal di gola in bambini e adulti (Gennaio-Febbraio 2022)
- Integrazione di calcio per la prevenzione dell'ipertensione primaria (Marzo-Aprile 2022)
- Strategie per l'utilizzo di corticosteroidi topici in bambini e adulti con eczema (Maggio-Giugno 2022)
- Imaging toracico per la diagnosi di COVID-19 (Settembre-Ottobre 2022)
- Segni e sintomi per determinare se un paziente che si presenta in cure primarie o in strutture ambulatoriali ospedaliere è affetto da COVID-19 (Novembre-Dicembre 2022)

**2023:**

- Efficacia e sicurezza dei vaccini per COVID-19 (Gennaio-Febbraio 2023)
- Sigarette elettroniche per smettere di fumare (Marzo-Aprile 2023)
- Calcio e vitamina D per aumentare la densità ossea nelle donne in premenopausa (Maggio-Giugno 2023)
- Stimolazione del midollo spinale per la lombalgia (luglio-Agosto 2023)
- Antidepressivi per la gestione del dolore negli adulti con dolore cronico: una meta-analisi a rete (Novembre-Dicembre 2023)

**Contact us !**

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